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09/781,689	02/12/2001	Roman P. Kresina	770P009596-US (PAR)	6139
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PERMAN & GREEN 425 POST ROAD FAIRFIELD, CT 06824			BASS, JON M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

3629

DATE MAILED: 01/31/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/781,689

Applicant(s)

KRESINA ET AL.

Examiner

Jon Bass

Art Unit

3629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 February 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This office action is in response to Providing Postal Services.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

**Claims 1, 8, 9, 11, 20, 21** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Christoph Kunde et al. (US Patent No. **6,178,410**) hereinafter referenced as **Kunde**.

#### **As for Claim 1:**

Kunde discloses a method and system comprising: a system for providing postal services to a plurality of remote postal printing stations, (col.2, lines 56-57, base station fashioned for communications with further stations) said system comprising: a communications facility for conducting communications between said system and said remote postal printing stations; (fig1, element 13,20, communication links) and a

plurality of services provided by said system to said remote stations when said remote stations access said system using said communications facility (col. 7, lines 7-12, individual stations arranged for station to station process and for communication among stations).

**As for Claim 8:**

Kunde discloses a method and system comprising: the combination with at least one of said plurality of remote postal printing stations (col.2, lines 54-55, mail processing composed of a number of stations).

**As for Claim 9:**

Kunde discloses a method and system comprising: wherein each of said postal printing stations has a monitor for determining when any service is being accessed, said monitor providing a signal to all other services that a service can be provided to said remote station (fig 3c, element 4, display unit).

**As for Claim 11:**

Kunde discloses a method and system comprising: a system for providing postal services to a plurality of remote postal printing stations, (col.2, lines 56-57, base station fashioned for communications with further stations) said system comprising: a communications facility for conducting communications between said system and said remote postal printing stations; (fig1, element 13,20, communication links) and a

plurality of services provided by said system to said remote stations when said remote stations access said system using said communications facility (col. 7, lines 7-12, individual stations arranged for station to station process and for communication among stations).

**As for Claim 20:**

Kunde discloses a method and system comprising: the combination with at least one of said plurality of remote postal printing stations (col.2, lines 54-55, mail processing composed of a number of stations).

**As for Claim 21:**

Kunde discloses a method and system comprising: wherein each of said postal printing stations has a monitor for determining when any service is being accessed, said monitor providing a signal to all other services that a service can be provided to said remote station (fig 3c, element 4, display unit).

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112**

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. **Claims 16 and 18** are rejected under 35 U.S.C 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

**Claim 16** is directed to a “default interface”. However the body of the claim recites communication structure (“if the default system fails”), therefore it’s not clear to one skilled what the scope of the Applicant’s claim.

**Claim 18** is directed to “application programming”. However the body of the claim recites “interfaces working simultaneously”, therefore it’s not clear to one skilled what the scope of the Applicant’s claim.

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claims 5,6, 7, 15, 17, 19** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kunde et al.(US Patent No 6,178,410) and in further view of Andrew Sutherland et al. (US Patent No 6,609,117) hereinafter referenced as Sutherland.

**As for Claim 5:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein; said communications facility includes an interface for Internet communication and an interface for modem communication.

Sutherland discloses a method and system wherein; said communications facility includes an interface for Internet communication and an interface for modem communication (col.2, lines 31-34), distributing postage over a public network.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with Sutherland system to emulate a invention that deals with said communications facility includes an interface for Internet communication and an interface for modem communication, distributing postage over a public network, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin (col.2, lines 31-34).

**As for Claim 6:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein, said interface for internet communication includes a remote access server and a plurality of application programming interfaces.

Sutherland discloses a method and system wherein; said interface for internet communication includes a remote access server and a plurality of application programming interfaces (col.4, lines 8-10 and 17-18) and ( fig 1, element 20), network interface, public network, and server and stored programs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with Sutherland

system to emulate a invention that deals interface for internet communication includes a remote access server and a plurality of application programming interfaces, network interface, public network, and server and stored programs, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin (col.4, lines 8-10 and 17-18) and (fig 1, element 20).

**As for Claim 7:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein, further comprising a monitor for determining when any service is being accessed, said monitor providing a signal to all other services that a service can be provided to said remote station.

Sutherland discloses a method and system wherein further comprising a monitor for determining when any service is being accessed, said monitor providing a signal to all other services that a service can be provided to said remote station (col.4, lines 24-26), video display device used to display output information to an operator on a screen.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with comprising a monitor for determining when any service is being accessed, said monitor providing a signal to all other services that a service can be provided to said remote station, video display device used to display output information to an operator on a screen, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin (col.4, lines 24-26).



**As for Claim 15:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein; said communications facility includes an interface for Internet communication and an interface for modem communication.

Sutherland discloses a method and system wherein; said communications facility includes an interface for Internet communication and an interface for modem communication (col.2, lines 31-34), distributing postage over a public network.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with Sutherland system to emulate a invention that deals with said communications facility includes an interface for Internet communication and an interface for modem communication, distributing postage over a public network, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin (col.2, lines 31-34).

**As for Claim 17:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein, said interface for internet communication includes a remote access server and a plurality of application programming interfaces.

Sutherland discloses a method and system wherein; said interface for internet communication includes a remote access server and a plurality of application programming interfaces (col.4, lines 8-10 and 17-18) and ( fig 1, element 20), network interface, public network, and server and stored programs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with Sutherland system to emulate a invention that deals interface for internet communication includes a remote

access server and a plurality of application programming interfaces, network interface, public network, and server and stored programs, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin (col.4, lines 8-10 and 17-18) and (fig 1, element 20).

**As for Claim 19:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein, further comprising a monitor for determining when any service is being accessed, said monitor providing a signal to all other services that a service can be provided to said remote station.

Sutherland discloses a method and system wherein further comprising a monitor for determining when any service is being accessed, said monitor providing a signal to all other services that a service can be provided to said remote station (col.4, lines 24-26), video display device used to display output information to an operator on a screen.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with Sutherland system to emulate a invention that deals with comprising a monitor for determining when any service is being accessed, said monitor providing a signal to all other services that a service can be provided to said remote station, video display device used to display output information to an operator on a screen, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin (col.4, lines 24-26).

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103**

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claims 2,3,4,10,12,13,14, and 22** rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kunde et al.(US Patent No 6,178,410) and in further view of Yukee Yeung et al. (US Patent No 6,101,487) hereinafter referenced as Yeung.

#### **As for Claim 2:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein, said services include at least one selected from the group consisting of:

- a key management system;
- a funds telemetering system;
- a software updating system;
- a postal rate updating system;
- an address cleansing system; a postal account management system;
- and a postal statistics server system.

Yeung discloses a method and system wherein said services include at least one selected from the group consisting of: a key management system; a funds telemetering system; a software updating system (col.2, lines 28-30; application software); a postal rate updating system(col.4,

lines 40-43; values of postal products); an address cleansing system (col.1, lines 65-67; generates addresses); a postal account management system (col.4, lines 9-14; all accounts, commercial and debit); and a postal statistics server system (col.4, lines 43-45; verified according to statistical basis) .

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with Yeung system to emulate an invention that deals with a funds telemetering system; a software updating system (col.2, lines 28-30; application software); a postal rate updating system(col.4, lines 40-43; values of postal products); an address cleansing system (col.1, lines 65-67; generates addresses); a postal account management system (col.4, lines 9-14; all accounts, commercial and debit); and a postal statistics server system (col.4, lines 43-45; verified according to statistical basis), which additionally verifies the products data and its origin .

**As for Claim 3:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein, further comprising facilities for providing services other than postal services.

Yeung discloses a method and system wherein further comprising facilities for providing services other than postal services (col.2, lines 49-54), postage metering machine, filling letters and shipping.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with Yeung system to emulate an invention that deals with comprising facilities for providing services other than postal

services, postage metering machine, filling letters and shipping, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin (col.2, lines 49-54).

**As for Claim 4:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein; said services other than postal services include at least one of printing tickets to entertainment events and printing lottery tickets.

Yeung discloses a method and system wherein said services other than postal services include at least one of printing tickets to entertainment events and printing lottery tickets (col.2, lines 62-64), printing machine.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with Yeung system to emulate an invention that deals with said services other than postal services include at least one of printing tickets to entertainment events and printing lottery tickets, printing machine, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin (col.2, lines 62-64).

**As for Claim 10:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein: further comprising data encryption facilities, a different level of security being provided by said facilities for different ones of said services.

Yeung discloses a method and system wherein further comprising data encryption facilities, a different level of security being provided by said facilities for different ones of said

services (col.3, lines 55-58), transmitted to the server using security measures, authenticates the transmission that verifies the security code.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with Yeung system to emulate an invention that deals with further comprising data encryption facilities, a different level of security being provided by said facilities for different ones of said services, transmitted to the server using security measures, authenticates the transmission that verifies the security code, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin (col.3, lines 55-58).

**As for Claim 12:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein, said services include at least one selected from the group consisting of:

- a key management system;
- a funds telemetering system;
- a software updating system;
- a postal rate updating system;
- an address cleansing system; a postal account management system;
- and a postal statistics server system.

Yeung discloses a method and system wherein said services include at least one selected from the group consisting of: a key management system; a funds telemetering system; a software updating system (col.2, lines 28-30; application software); a postal rate updating system(col.4, lines 40-43; values of postal products); an address cleansing system (col.1, lines 65-67; generates

addresses); a postal account management system (col.4, lines 9-14; all accounts, commercial and debit); and a postal statistics server system (col.4, lines 43-45; verified according to statistical basis) .

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with Yeung system to emulate an invention that deals with a funds telemetering system; a software updating system (col.2, lines 28-30; application software); a postal rate updating system(col.4, lines 40-43; values of postal products); an address cleansing system (col.1, lines 65-67; generates addresses); a postal account management system (col.4, lines 9-14; all accounts, commercial and debit); and a postal statistics server system (col.4, lines 43-45; verified according to statistical basis), which additionally verifies the products data and its origin .

**As for Claim 13:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein, further comprising facilities for providing services other than postal services.

Yeung discloses a method and system wherein further comprising facilities for providing services other than postal services (col.2, lines 49-54), postage metering machine, filling letters and shipping.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with Yeung system to emulate an invention that deals with comprising facilities for providing services other than postal services, postage metering machine, filling letters and shipping, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin (col.2, lines 49-54).

**As for Claim 14:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein; said services other than postal services include at least one of printing tickets to entertainment events and printing lottery tickets.

Yeung discloses a method and system wherein said services other than postal services include at least one of printing tickets to entertainment events and printing lottery tickets (col.2, lines 62-64), printing machine.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with Yeung system to emulate an invention that deals with said services other than postal services include at least one of printing tickets to entertainment events and printing lottery tickets, printing machine, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin (col.2, lines 62-64).

**As for Claim 22:**

Kunde discloses a method and system but lacks wherein: further comprising data encryption facilities, a different level of security being provided by said facilities for different ones of said services.

Yeung discloses a method and system wherein further comprising data encryption facilities, a different level of security being provided by said facilities for different ones of said services (col.3, lines 55-58), transmitted to the server using security measures, authenticates the transmission that verifies the security code.



Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Kunde's method and system in conjunction with Yeung system to emulate an invention that deals with further comprising data encryption facilities, a different level of security being provided by said facilities for different ones of said services, transmitted to the server using security measures, authenticates the transmission that verifies the security code, which additionally verifies the products data and its origin (col.3, lines 55-58).

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art that was cited hasn't been used in conducting a decision but has been considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure.

Any concerns in regard to this communication, the examiner **Jon Bass** can be reached at (703) 305-0383 between the hours of 9-6pm Monday through Friday. The fax number where the application is being process is (703) 872-9306.

If for any reason the examiner is unavailable, the immediate supervisor, **John Weiss** can be reached at (703) 308-2702.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

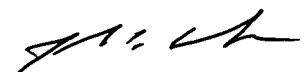
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*J.B.*



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